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(54) Title: METHODS AND MATERIALS RELATING TO DNA BINDING PROTEINS

(57) Abstract

DNA sequences associated with regulation of early stages of cell growth are described. Illustratively provided are human and mouse origin DNA sequence encoding early growth regulatory ("Egr") proteins which include "zinc finger" regions of the type involved in DNA binding. Immunological methods and materials for detection of Egr proteins and hybridization methods and materials for detection and quantification of Egr protein related nucleic acids are also disclosed.

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"METHODS AND MATERIALS RELATING TO DNA BINDING PROTEINS"

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CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This is a continuation-in-part application of co-pending U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 179,587, filed April 8, 1988.

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BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

binding regulatory proteins and more particularly to DNA sequences encoding early growth regulatory proteins possessing histidine-cysteine "zinc finger" DNA binding domains, to the polypeptide products of recombinant expression of these DNA sequences, to peptides and polypeptides whose sequences are based on amino acid sequences deduced from these DNA sequences, to antibodies specific for such proteins and peptides, and to procedures for detection and quantification of such proteins and nucleic acids related thereto.

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Among the most significant aspects of mammalian cell physiology yet to be elucidated is the precise manner in which growth factors (e.g., hormones, neurotransmitters and various developmental and differentiation factors) operate to effect the regulation of cell growth. The interaction of certain growth factors with surface receptors of resting cells appears to rapidly induce a cascade of biochemical events thought to result in nuclear activation of specific growth related genes, followed by ordered expression of other genes. Analysis of sequential activation and expression of genes during the transition from a resting state (" G_0 ") to the initial growing state (" G_1 ") has been the subject of substantial research. See, gener-

ally, Lau et al., Proc. Nat'l. Acad. Sci. (USA), 84, 1182-1186 (1987). Much of this research has involved analysis of the expression of known genes encoding sus-5 pected regulatory proteins (such as the proto-oncogenes, c-fos and c-myc) following mitogen stimulation. An alternative approach has involved attempts to identify 10 genes activated by mitogenic stimuli through differential screening of cDNA libraries prepared from resting cells following exposure to serum and specific growth 15 factors. See, e.g., Lau et al., EMBO Journal, 4, 3145-3151 (1985). See also, Cochran et al., Cell, 33, 939-947 (1983), relating to the cloning of gene sequences apparently regulated by platelet derived 20 growth factor.

Of interest to the background of the invention is the continuously expanding body of knowledge regard-25 ing structural components involved in the binding of regulatory proteins to DNA. Illustratively, the socalled receptor proteins are believed to bind to DNA by 30 means of zinc ion stabilized secondary structural fingers premised on folding of continuous amino acid sequences showing high degrees of conservation of cysteines and histidines and hydrophobic residues. See, 35 e.g., Gehring, TIBS, 12, 399-402 (1987). For example, a "zinc finger" domain or motif, present in Xenopus transcription factor IIIA (TF IIIA), as well as the Drosophila Kruppel gene product and various yeast proteins, involves "repeats" of about 30 amino acid residues wherein pairs of cysteine and histidine residues are coordinated around a central zinc ion and are thought to form finger-like structures which make contact with DNA. The histidine-cysteine (or "CC-HH") zinc finger motif, as opposed to a cysteine-cysteine ("CC-CC") motif of steroid receptors, is reducible to a consensus sequence represented as C-X₂₋₄-C-X₃-F-X₅-L-X₂-H-X₃-H wherein C represents cysteine, H represents

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histidine, F represents phenylalanine, L represents leucine and X represents any amino acid. [See, Klug et al. <u>TIBS</u>, <u>12</u>, 464-469 (1987); Blumberg et al., <u>Nature</u>, 328, 443-445 (1987); and Schuh et al., Cell, 47, 1025-1032 (1986).]

Of particular interest to the background of 10 the invention is the recent report of Chowdhury et al., Cell, 48, 771-778 (1987), relating to an asserted "family" of genes encoding proteins having histidinecysteine finger structures. These genes, designated 15 "mkrl" and "mkr2", appear to be the first such isolated from mammalian tissue and are not correlated to any early growth regulatory events. 20

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There continues to exist a need in the art for information concerning the primary structural conformation of early growth regulatory proteins, especially DNA binding proteins, such as might be provided by knowledge of human and other mammalian DNA sequences encoding the same. Availability of such DNA sequences would make possible the application of recombinant methods to the large scale production of the proteins in procaryotic and eukaryotic host cells, as well as DNA-DNA and DNA-RNA hybridization procedures for the detection, quantification and/or isolation of nucleic acids associated with these and related proteins. Possession of such DNA-binding proteins and/or knowledge of the amino acid sequences of the same would allow, in turn, the development of monoclonal and polyclonal antibodies thereto (including antibodies to protein fragments or synthetic peptides modeled thereon) for use in immunological methods for the detection and quantification of early growth regulatory proteins in fluid and tissue samples as well as for tissue specific delivery of substances such as labels and therapeutic agents to cells expressing the proteins. In addition, DNA probes based on the DNA sequences for these mammalian early growth

regulatory proteins may be of use in detecting gene markers used for the diagnosis of those clinical disorders which are linked to the marker genes.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

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The present invention provides novel purified and isolated DNA sequences encoding mammalian early growth regulatory ("Egr") proteins which comprise one or more histidine-cysteine zinc finger amino acid sequences putatively providing DNA binding (and hence DNA replication or transcription regulatory) capacity. In presently preferred forms, novel DNA sequences of the invention comprise genomic and cDNA sequences encoding human and mouse early growth regulatory proteins. Alternate DNA forms, such as "manufactured" DNA, prepared by partial or total chemical synthesis from nucleotides, are also within the contemplation of the

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invention.

Operative association of Egr-encoding DNA sequences provided by the invention with homologous or heterologous species expression control DNA sequences, such as promoters, operators, regulators and the like, allows for in vivo and in vitro transcription to form messenger RNA which, in turn, is susceptible to translation to provide Egr proteins in large quantities. one presently preferred DNA expression system practiced according to the invention, Egr-encoding DNA is operatively associated with a bacteriophage T3 or T7 RNA promoter DNA sequence allowing for in vitro transcription and translation in a cell free system. poration of novel DNA sequences of the invention into procaryotic and eucaryotic host cells by standard transformation and transfection processes involving suitable viral and circular DNA plasmid vectors is also within the contemplation of the invention and is expected to

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provide useful proteins in quantities heretofore unavailable from natural sources. Illustratively, fragments of DNA encoding Egr protein of the invention have been incorporated in plasmid vectors resulting in expression by transformed E.coli hosts of fusion proteins sharing immunological characteristics of Egr protein. Use of mammalian host cells is expected to provide for such post-translational modifications (e.g., truncation, glycosylation, and tyrosine, serine or threonine phosphorylation) as may be needed to confer optimal biological activity on recombinant expression products of the invention.

Also provided by the present invention are novel, presumptively mitogen sensitive, DNA sequences involved in regulation of the transcription of Egrencoding DNA, which sequences are expected to have utility in the efficient recombinant expression of Egr proteins as well as proteins encoded by other structural genes. In addition, the DNA sequences may be used as probes to detect the presence or absence of gene markers used for the diagnosis of clinical disorders linked to those gene markers.

Novel polypeptide products of the invention include polypeptides having the primary structural conformation (i.e., amino acid sequence) of Egr proteins or fragments thereof, as well as synthetic peptides, an analogs thereof, assembled to be partially or wholly duplicative of amino acid sequences extant in Egr proteins. Proteins, protein fragments, and synthetic peptides of the invention are expected to have therapeutic, diagnostic, and prognostic uses and also to provide the basis for preparation of monoclonal and polyclonal antibodies specifically immunoreactive with Egr proteins, as well as to provide the basis for the production of drugs for use as competitive inhibitors or potentiators of Egr. Preferred protein fragments and

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synthetic peptides of the invention include those duplicating regions of Egr proteins which are not involved in DNA binding functions (i.e., regions other than the zinc fingers). Most preferred are peptides which share at least one continuous or discontinuous antigenic epitope with naturally occurring Egr proteins.

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Antibodies of the invention preferably bind with high immunospecificity to Egr proteins, fragments, and peptides, preferably recognizing epitopes which are not common to other proteins, especially other DNA binding proteins.

Also provided by the present invention are novel procedures for the detection and/or quantification of Egr proteins and nucleic acids (e.g., DNA and mRNA) specifically associated therewith. Illustratively, antibodies of the invention may be employed in known immunological procedures for quantitative detection of Egr proteins in fluid and tissue samples. Similarly, DNA sequences of the invention (particularly those having limited homology to other DNAs encoding DNA binding proteins) may be suitably labelled and employed for the quantitative detection of mRNA encoding the proteins. Information concerning levels of Egr mRNA may provide valuable insights into growth characteristics of cells.

Among the multiple aspects of the present invention, therefore, is the provision of (a) novel purified and isolated Egr-encoding DNA sequences set out in Figures 1A, 3, and 4 as well as (b) Egr-encoding DNA sequences which hybridize thereto under hybridization conditions of the stringency equal to or greater than the conditions described herein and employed in the initial isolation of DNAs of the invention, and (c) synthetic or partially synthetic DNA sequences encoding the same, or allelic variant, or analog Egr polypeptides

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which employ, at least in part, degenerate codons. Correspondingly provided are viral or circular plasmid DNA vectors incorporating such DNA sequences and procaryotic and eucaryotic host cells transformed or transfected with such DNA sequences and vectors as well as novel methods for the recombinant production of Egr proteins through cultured growth of such hosts and isolation from the hosts or their culture media.

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Preferred polypeptide products of the invention include those wholly or partially duplicating the deduced sequence of the amino acid residues set out in Figures 1A and 3 (i.e., mouse "Egr-1" and human "EGR2"). Other preferred polypeptides include fusion proteins such as cro-\$\beta\$-galactosidase/Egr-1 and bovine growth hormone/Egr-1.

Presently preferred antibodies of the invention include those raised against synthetic peptides partially duplicating deduced Egr amino acid sequences of Figures 1A and 3 (e.g., the synthetic peptides H-L-R-Q-K-D-K-K-A-D-K-S-C, the first 12 amino acid residues of which duplicate mouse Egr-1 residues 416-427 with the last cysteine added for coupling to KLH; and C-G-R-K-F-A-R-S-D-E-R-K-R-H-T-K-I duplicating mouse Egr-1 residues 399-415). The antisera against the first peptide is designated VPS10 and comprises a preferred antibody of the invention.

As employed herein, the term "early growth regulatory protein" shall mean and include a mammalian DNA binding protein encoded by DNA whose transcription temporally corresponds to cellular events attending the G_0/G_1 growth phase transition. As employed herein, "histidine-cysteine zinc finger amino acid sequence" shall mean and include the following sequence of amino acids $C-X_{2-4}-C-X_3-F-X_5-L-X_2-H-X_3-H$ wherein C represents cysteine, H represents histidine, F represents phenylalanine, L represents lysine, and X represents an amino acid.

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Other aspects and advantages of the present invention will be apparent upon consideration of the following detailed description thereof which includes numerous illustrative examples of the practice of the invention, reference being made to the drawing wherein:

Figure 1A provides a 3086 base nucleotide

sequence for a mouse Egr-1 DNA clone as well as a

deduced sequence of 533 amino acid residues for the

protein; Figure 1B provides a partial restriction map of

Egr-1 DNA clones together with information concerning

the position of the protein coding sequence and the

locus of amino acids providing for histidine-cysteine

zinc fingers;

Figure 2 provides an amino acid sequence alignment of the DNA binding domain of mouse Egr-1 in comparison with a zinc finger consensus sequence, with the Drosophila Kruppel sequence and with the "finger 2" sequence of Xenopus TFIIIA protein;

Figure 3 provides a 2820 base nucleotide sequence for a human EGR2 cDNA clone as well as a deduced sequence of 456 amino acids for the protein;

Figure 4 provides a 1200 base nucleotide sequence of a mouse Egr-1 genomic clone, specifically illustrating the 5' non-transcribed regulatory region thereof comprising bases -935 through +1; and

Figure 5 provides a restriction map and organization of the mouse Egr-1 genomic clone mgEgr-1.1 and a comparison to mouse Egr-1 cDNA.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

The following examples illustrate practice of the invention. Example 1 relates to the preparation and structural analysis of cDNA for mouse Egr-1. Example 2 relates to confirmation of the presence of an Egr DNA sequence on human chromosome 5. Example 3 relates to the <u>in vitro</u> transcription and translation of mouse

Egr-1 cDNA. Example 4 relates to production of antibodies according to the invention. Example 5 relates to the isolation and characterization of genomic DNA which encodes mouse Egr-1. Example 6 relates to the isolation and characterization of cDNA encoding human EGR2.

Example 7 relates to preparation, in an E. coli host, of 10 a recombinant fusion protein including a portion of the deduced amino acid sequence of mouse Egr-1. Example 8 relates to use of DNA probes of the invention in the quantitative detection of EGR1 mRNA. 15

These examples are for illustrative purposes only and are not intended in any way to limit the scope of the invention.

EXAMPLE 1

25 Preparation and Structural Analysis of cDNA for Mouse Egr-1

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Isolation of DNA encoding a mammalian early growth regulatory protein including one or more histidine-cysteine zinc finger amino acid sequences was performed substantially according to the procedures described in Sukhatme et al., Oncogene Research, 1, 343-355 (1987), the disclosures of which are specifically incorporated by reference herein.

Balb/c 3T3 cells (clone A31) from the American Type Culture Collection were grown to confluence in Dulbecco's Modified Eagle's medium (DME) supplemented with 10% fetal calf serum (FCS). The cells were rendered quiescent by reduction of the serum concentration to 0.75% for 48 hours. To induce the cells from quiescence into growth phase G_1 , the medium was changed to 20% FCS with cycloheximide added to a final concentration of 10 µg/ml.

RNA was extracted from Balb/c 3T3 cells harvested three hours after induction of quiescent cells by

20% FCS and 10 μ g/ml cycloheximide. A λ gt10 cDNA library was constructed from this mRNA according to the procedures of Huynh et al., DNA Cloning, Vol. 1, 49-78 5 (Glover, D., ed., IRL Press, 1985). This library was screened differentially with single stranded cDNA prepared from quiescent cells and from cells exposed to 10 serum and cycloheximide for 3 hours. These 32p-labeled cDNA probes were prepared from poly A+ RNA as described in St. John, et al., Cell, 16, 443-452 (1979), except 15 that 100 uCi of ³²P-dCTP (>3000 Ci/mmol), 0.02 mM cold dCTP and 2-5 μg of poly \mbox{A}^{+} RNA was used in each reac-The mean size of the reverse transcribed probes, as assessed by alkaline agarose gel electrophoresis and 20 subsequent autoradiography, was about 700 bases. Replica filter lifts (GeneScreenPlus, NEN-DuPont) were prepared essentially as described by Benton et al., 25 Science, 196, 180-192 (1977), and approximately 3 x 10^6 cpm of ³²P-cDNA were used per filter (90 mm diameter). Hybridizations were carried out at 65°C in 1% SDS, 10% 30 dextran sulfate, and 1 M NaCl for a period of 16 The filters were washed twice for twenty minutes each time, first at room temperature in 2 x SSC [Maniatis et al., Molecular Cloning, Cold Spring Harbor 35 Laboratory (New York, 1982)], then at 65°C in 2 x SSC, 1% NaDodSO₄ and finally at 65°C in 0.2 x SSC. Autoradiograms were prepared by exposing the blots for 18 hours at -70°C with an intensifying screen.

A total of 10,000 cDNA clones from the Balb/c 3T3 \(\lambda\)gt10 library were differentially screened. Seventy-eight clones were found to hybridize preferentially to single-stranded cDNA from fibroblasts stimulated for 3 hours with 20% FCS and cycloheximide as compared to single-stranded cDNA from quiescent cells. Inserts from these clones were cross-hybridized to each other, resulting in the sorting of forty clones into 7 cDNA families one of which was identified as c-fos.

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Another cDNA clone, referred to as OC68, contained a 2.2 kb insert and was characterized further. insert was subcloned into the Eco RI site of pUC13 and probes were generated for Northern blot analysis either from the insert or the corresponding pUC plasmid. Figure 1B illustrates a partial restriction digest map of the OC68 clone ("R" representing restriction sites for RsaI) along with that of a shorter clone, OC19t. Two RsaI digestion fragments, derived from the 5' end of clone OC68 and each comprising approximately 130 base pairs, were labeled and employed to re-screen the abovedescribed $\lambda gt10$ cDNA library, resulting in the recovery of a 3.1 kb clone, designated OC3.1, shown in figure This clone was sequenced according to the method of Sanger et al., Proc. Nat'l. Acad. Sci. (USA), 74, 5463 (1977). The 3086 base pair sequence obtained is set forth in Figure 1A along with the deduced sequence of 533 amino acid residues for the protein encoded,

designated mouse "Egr-1". The deduced amino acid sequence shows a single long open reading frame with a stop codon (TAA) at posi-The most 5', in-frame, ATG, at position 259, tion 1858. is flanked by sequences that fulfill the Kozak criterion (ANN(ATG)G) [Kozak, Nuc. Acids Res., 15, 8125-8131 (1987)]. The sequence region upstream of this ATG is highly GC-rich and results in an absence of in-frame stop codons. The 3' untranslated region (UT) contains two "AT" rich regions (nucleotides 2550-2630 and 2930-2970). Similar sequences are found in the 3' UT regions of several lymphokine and proto-oncogene mRNAs, including granulocyte macrophage colony stimulating factor (GM-CSF), interleukin 1, interleukin 2, interleukin 3 (IL-3), α , β , and γ interferons, and c-fos, c-myc, and c-myb [Shaw et al., Cell, 46, 659-667 (1986)]. These sequences may mediate selective mRNA degradation. The presence in the mouse Egr-1 transcript 5

of such regions is consistent with its short message half-life. Potential polyadenylation signals (AATAAA) are located at nucleotide positions 1865 and 3066, as well as at position 3053 (AATTAA) [Wickens et al., Science, 226, 1045-1051 (1984)].

The deduced amino acid sequence predicts a 10 polypeptide of 533 amino acids with a molecular weight of 56,596. Based on structural considerations, namely a central region containing zinc fingers (described 15 below), the Egr-1 protein can be divided into three domains. The N-terminal portion (amino acid residues 2 to 331) is rich in proline (14.2%) and serine (16%) residues with 7.9% alanines and 7.9% threonines. The C-20 terminal region (residues 417 to 533) also contains a very high proportion of prolines and serines (15.4 and 26.5%, respectively) and 10.3% alanines and 11.1% 25 The large number of proline residues leads threonines. to a secondary structure that probably lacks α-helices. The central portion of the Egr-l protein 30 consists of three tandem repeat units of 28-30 amino acids, with the first unit starting at position 332. Each unit conforms almost exactly to the consensus sequence $TGX_{3F}^{Y}XCX_{2-4}CX_{3}FX_{5}LX_{2}HX_{3}H$ (see Figure 2), 35 diagnostic of DNA binding zinc fingers [Berg, Science, 232, 485-486 (1986); Brown et al., Nature, 324, 215 (1986); and Brown et al., FEBS Letters, 186, 271-274 (1985)]. Furthermore, the Egr-1 fingers are connected $(TGE_K^R P_V^F X)$ [Schuh et al., Cell, 47, by "H-C links" 1025-1032 (1986)] found in the Xenopus TFIIIA gene (between fingers 1, 2, and 3), in the Drosophila Kruppel gap gene [Rosenberg et al., Nature, 319, 336-339 (1986)], and in genes from mouse and Xenopus that crosshybridize to the Kruppel (Kr) finger domains: mkrl, mkr2 [Chowdhury et al., Cell, 48, 771-778 (1987)], and Xfin [Altaba et al., EMBO Journal, 6, 3065-3070 (1987)]. The sequence similarity amongst the Egr-1

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fingers is 50-70%, whereas the sequence similarity between any of the Egr-1 fingers and those present in TFIIIA, Kruppel, mkrl, mkr2 or Xfin is 35-40%. Outside of the finger domains, it is noteworthy that the Egr-1 and Kr proteins each contain a very high proportion of Pro, Ala, and Ser residues [Schuh et al., Cell, 47, 1025-1032 (1986)]. However, there is no sequence similarity in these regions. Thus, Egr-1 and Kr are not homologous genes nor is Egr-1 related to mkr1, mkr2, Xfin, or TFIIIA. The Kr gene contains thirteen copies of the hexanucleotide (ACAAAA), or its complementary sequence, eight of which are located within 180 bp downstream from the Kr TATA box and five are in the 3' UT region. These sequences may serve as targets for other DNA binding proteins or in Kr gene autoregula-The Egr-1 cDNA also contains nine copies of the ACAAAA sequence or its complement.

Following the work described above, Milbrandt [Science, 238, 797-799 (1987)], reported the isolation and sequence of a nerve growth factor (NGF) inducible 30 cDNA (NGFI-A) from the rat pheochromocytoma PC12 line. A comparison of the deduced amino acid sequence of NGFI-A to that of mouse Egr-1 of Figure 1A reveals 98% 35 sequence identity. Thus, mouse Egr-1 and rat NGFI-A are homologs. The putative initiation ATG chosen by Milbrandt corresponds to position 343 in the Figure 1A cDNA sequence, and is 84 nucleotides (28 amino acid residues) downstream of the ATG therein designated for translation initiation. Both ATG's have a purine at position -3 and a G at position +1 and the designation represented in Figure 1A of the more 5' ATG as the putative start codon is based on the experience of Kozak, Nuc. Acids Res., 15, 8125-8131 (1987), even though the more 3' ATG is surrounded by the longer Kozak consensus sequence (CCG/ACCATGG). Translation of an in vitro generated RNA transcript, described infra, selects the more 5' ATG for initiation.

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It is noteworthy that a major difference in the deduced sequences of mouse Egr-1 and rat NGFI-A resides in the sequence spanning residues 61-68 of Egr-1 and 33-43 of NGFI-A. The former includes the sequence N-S-S-S-S-S-S-S while the latter includes the sequence N-N-S-S-S-S-S-S-S-S-S, accounting for the 3 residue difference in length of the putative polypeptides which is not accounted for by the difference in designation of the transcript initiation signal.

EXAMPLE 2

20 Human Chromosome Gene Mapping

To determine the human chromosomal localization of the gene corresponding to mouse Egr-1, the OC3.1 and OC19t cDNA clones were hybridized to a panel of rodent x human somatic cell hybrids. Southern blot analysis of the hybrid panel showed concordance between the presence of Egr-1 sequences and human chromosome 5. In situ hybridization to normal human metaphase chromosomes resulted in specific labeling only of chromosome 5, with the largest cluster of grains at 5q23-31. Specific labeling of these bands was also observed in hybridizations using an Egr-1 probe which does not contain finger sequences.

This localization is interesting in light of the non-random deletions [del(5q)] in human myeloid disorders (acute myelogenous leukemia) (AML), and myelodysplastic syndromes, that involve this chromosomal region. [Le Beau et al., Science, 231, 984-987 (1986); Dewald et al., Blood, 66, 189-197 (1985); and Van den Berghe et al., Cancer Genet. Cytogenet., 17, 189-255 (1985)]. Fifty percent of patients with therapy related AML show chromosome 5 abnormalities (interstitial deletions or monosomy) and cytogenetic analysis of the deletions has revealed that one segment, consisting of bands

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5q23-31, is absent in the malignant cells of all patients who have aberrations of chromosome 5. These data suggest that loss of a critical DNA sequence lead-5 ing to hemizygosity (or homozygosity) of a recessive allele may play an important role in the pathogenesis of these disorders, a mechanism substantiated for retino-10 Although genes for a number of growth factors and receptors (IL-3, GM-CSF, β_2 -adrenergic receptor, endothelial cell growth factor, CSF-1, c-fms, pDGF receptor) are clustered in or near this region, Egr-1 15 (by virtue of its zinc fingers) is the only member of this group with potential transcriptional regulatory activity. It is therefore possible that its absence 20 could lead to deregulated cell growth.

EXAMPLE 3

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In Vitro Expression of Mouse Egr-l cDNA

A 2.1 kb ApaI/ApaI fragment (comprising nucleotides 120-2224 of Figure 1A) was isolated from the OC3.1 DNA clone. This fragment includes the translation start (ATG) codon at nucleotide position 259 designated The fragment was blunt-ended with T4 DNA in Figure 1A. polymerase and cloned into the Bluescript vector KS M13(+) containing a T3/T7 bacteriophage promoter. (T3) sense transcript was generated and in vitro translated in a standard rabbit reticulocyte lysate system (Promega Biotec, Madison, WI. 53711) including 35 S methionine as a radiolabel. An analogous <u>in</u> <u>vitro</u> transcription system was developed using a BglII/BglII fragment of OC3.1 (including nucleotides 301-1958 and not including the translation start designated in Figure The T7 sense transcript was employed in the translation system. Differential characterization of translation products by autoradiographic SDS PAGE indicated that the ATG at nucleotide position 259 is preferred as

a translation start codon when all potential start sites are present.

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EXAMPLE 4

10 Preparation of Antibodies:

A first synthetic peptide based on the sequence of amino acid residues 416-427 of mouse Egr-1 was prepared and provided with a carboxy terminal cysteine residue. The peptide, H-L-R-Q-K-D-K-K-A-D-K-S-C, was coupled to KLH and employed to immunize New Zealand white rabbits. Animals were initially immunized with 100 µg of the immunogen in Freund's Complete Adjuvant and every two weeks were boosted with 100 µg of immunogen with Freund's Incomplete Adjuvant. Sera, designated VPS10, were isolated after 68 days and displayed an antibody titer of 1:12,800 based on reactivity with the antigen used to prepare the antisera.

A second synthetic peptide, based on residues 399 to 415 of mouse Egr-1, was prepared. The peptide, C-G-R-K-R-A-R-S-D-E-R-K-R-H-T-K-I, was coupled to KLH and used to immunize rabbits as above, resulting in the production of antisera (designated VPS2) with a titer of 1:400.

EXAMPLE 5

Isolation of Genomic Mouse Egr-1 Clone and Characterization of Regulatory Regions

A mouse Balb/c 3T3 genomic library was prepared in a Stratagene (La Jolla, California) vector, AFIX, according to the manufacturer's instructions and probed using 1% SDS, 1 M NaCl, and 10% dextran sulfate at 65°C with stringent final wash in 0.2 x SSC at 65°C with a 2.1 kb ApaI/ApaI fragment and a 3.1 kb Eco RI/Eco

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RI fragment derived from digestion of pUC13 including the mouse Egr-1 clone OC3.1. One positive clone, from approximately 300,000 screened, was designated mgEgr-1.1 and also hybridized to the extreme 5'-end 120 bp Eco RI-Apa I fragment from plasmid OC3.1.

A 2.4 kb Pvu-II-PvuII fragment and a 6.6 kb 10 XbaI-XbaI fragment (see Figure 5) derived from the mgEgr-1.1 clone were subcloned into the SmaI and XbaI sites of pUC13 and pUC18 respectively, and the resulting plasmids (designated as p2.4 and p6.6) were used for 15 restriction mapping analysis of transcription initiation sites and for nucleotide sequencing. Marked in Figure 4, and listed in Table 1, are possible regulatory 20 elements identified in the 5' flanking sequence of mgEgr-1.1. A putative TATA motif (AAATA) is located 26 nucleotides upstream of the transcription start site. A 25 "CCAAT" type sequence starts at nucleotide -337. different regions, each 10 nucleotides in length, located at -110, -342, -358, -374, and -412, are nearly identical to the inner core of the c-fos serum response 30 element (Treisman, R., Cell, 46, 567 (1986)). Each has a 5-6 nucleotide AT rich stretch and is surrounded by the dinucleotide CC on the 5' side and GG on the 35 other. Two potential TPA responsive elements (Lee, W., et al., Cell, 49, 741 (1987) and Angel, P., et al., Cell, 49, 729 (1987)) are located at nucleotides -610 and -867. Four consensus Spl (Briggs, M.R., et al., Science, 234, 47 (1986) binding sequences are at position -285, -649, -700 and -719. In addition, two sequences have been identified that might serve as cAMP response elements (Montimy, M.R., et al., Nature, 328,

175 (1987)) (-138 and -631).

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TABLE 1

Location and Identification of Potential Regulatory Elements

	Element	Sequence ¹	Location ²
10	TATA CCAAT	AAATA CCAAT	-26 to -22 -337 to -333
	Serum Response Element Consensus		
15	GATGTCCATATTAGGACATC CC TA AT GG G C	TCCTTCCATATTAGGGCTTC GTGGCCC-AATATGGCCTG CAGCGCCTTATATGGAGTGG ACAGACCTTATTTGGGCAGC AAACGCCATATAAGGAGCAG	-358 to -339 -374 to -355
20			
25	TPA Responsive Element (AP1 binding site) Consensus		
25	C C TGACT A G A	CTGACTC <u>G</u> CTGACT <u>GG</u>	-610 to -603 -867 to -860
30	Spl binding site	GGGCGG GGGCGG GGGCGG	-285 to -280 -649 to -644 -700 to -695 -719 to -714
35	cAMP Response Element Consensus		
	TGACGTCA	TCACGTCA TGACG <u>G</u> C <u>T</u>	-138 to -131 -631 to -624

^{1.} The underlined bases in the mouse Egr-1 gene sequence are those that do not match the consensus sequence.

^{2.} The location numbers refer to the nucleotides of the mouse Egr-l gene as indicated in Figure 4.

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To obtain the genomic sequence and the intronexon gene structure, specific oligonucleotides (17-mers at positions 83, 122, 174, 200, 379, 543, 611, 659, 905, 5 920, 1000, 1200, 1400, 1600, 1800, 2100, 2353, 2650, 2825) of the OC3.1 cDNA sequence (see Figure 1A) were used as primers for double stranded sequencing of 10 plasmids p2.4 and p6.6. Comparison of the Egr-1 genomic sequence to the Egr-1 cDNA sequence showed the Egr-1 gene consists of 2 exons and a single 700 bp intron (between nucleotide position 556 and 557 as 15 numbered in Figure 1A and as shown in Figure 5). Both the 5' and 3' splice junction sequences (not shown) are in excellent agreement with the consensus boundary 20 sequences. Mount, S.M., Nucleic Acids Res., 10, 459 (1982).

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EXAMPLE 6

Isolation and Characterization of Human EGR2 cDNA

A human genomic placental library in the vector EMBL3, prepared by Dr. C. Westbrook of the University of Chicago according to procedures described in Frischauff et al., Jour. Mol. Biol., 170, 827-842 (1983), and a human leukocyte cosmid library prepared according to procedures described in Proc. Nat'l. Acad. Sci. (USA), 80, 5225-5229 (1983), were probed with the 2.1 kb ApaI fragment of OC3.1 (described in Example 5) using 1% SDS, 1 M NaCl and 10% dextrose sulfate at 50-55°C with a non-stringent final wash in 2 x SSC at 50-55°C. A single positive clone (designated HG6) was isolated from the first library and four clones (designated HG17, 18, 19 and 21, respectively) were isolated from the second library. A 6.6 kb SalI/EcoRI fragment of clone HG6 was found to hybridize with a 332 base pair HpaII/HpaII fragment of the mouse Egr-1 gene,

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which letter fragment spans the putative zinc finger The 6.6 kb fragment, in turn, was employed to probe a cDNA library derived from human fibroblasts 5 which have been stimulated for three hours with 20% fetal calf serum in the presence of 10 µg/ml cyclohexamide. About 10,000 clones were screened and 10 the fifty positive clones obtained (designated "zap-1 through zap-50") are being subjected to nucleotide sequence analysis. Preliminary sequence analysis 15 reveals that three clones, zap-2, zap-8, and zap-32, all encode the same transcript, namely a protein designated human EGR2, shown in Figure 3. Preliminary analysis indicates approximately 92% homology between mouse Egr-1 20 and human EGR2 polypeptides in the zinc finger regions, but substantially less homology in the amino and carboxy terminal regions. Chromosome mapping studies, similar 25 to those described in Example 2, indicate that human chromosome 10, at bands q21-22, constitutes a locus for the human EGR2 gene.

The plasmid zap-32, containing the full length human EGR2 clone, was used as a probe in Southern blot analysis on DNAs from 58 unrelated Caucasians. It was found that Hind III detects a simple two-allele polymorphism with bands at either 8.0 kb (Al) or 5.6 kb and 2.4 kb (A2). No constant bands were detected. The frequency of Al was 0.90 and that of A2 was 0.10. No polymorphisms were detected for Apa I, BamH I, Ban II, Bgl I, Bgl II, BstE II, Dra I, EcoR I, EcoR V, Hinc II, Msp I, Pst I, Pvu II, Rsa I, Sac I, and Taq I in 10 unrelated individuals. Co-dominant segregation of the Hind III RFLP was observed in four large kindreds with a total of more than 350 individuals.

These data will be useful in gene linkage studies for mapping genes for certain genetic disorders. For example, the gene responsible for the dominantly inherited syndrome, multiple endocrine

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neoplasia, type 2A (MEN-2A) has been assigned by linkage to chromosome 10. Simpson, et al., Nature, 328, 528 (1987). Studies are currently underway to determine the linkage relationship between MEN-2A and EGR2 and are expected to be useful in cloning the MEN-2A gene as well as in serving as a diagnostic marker for the disease.

EXAMPLE 7

15 Recombinant Expression Of Fusion Proteins

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A 322 base HpaII/HpaII fragment (comprising nucleotides 1231-1553) derived from the OC3.1 cloned DNA was treated with DNA polymerase to fill in the single stranded ends. This fragment was inserted in plasmid pEX3 (obtained from K. Stanley, European Molecular Biology Laboratory, Postfach 10.2209, 6900 Heidelberg, F.R.G.) digested with SmaI. Stanley, K.K., et al., EMBO J., 3, 1429 (1984). This insertion placed the Egr-1 encoding DNA fragment in the same reading frame as plasmid DNA encoding cro-β-galactosidase, allowing for the expression of a fusion protein comprising the amino terminal residues of cro-β-galactosidase and 108 residues of Egr-1 amino acids 325 to 432. This cro-β-galactosidase/Egr-1 fusion plasmid, designated pFIG, was used to transform E. Coli NF1.

Induced (42°C) and un-induced (30°C) cultured cell lysates from growth of the transformed NFl cells were then analyzed by SDS-PAGE. Upon Coomassie stain analysis, only induced cell lysates included an approximately 108 kd product, indicating presence of the projected expression product. Western blot analysis, using the rabbit polyclonal anti-peptide antibody VPS10 (see Example 4) raised against H-L-R-Q-K-D-K-K-A-D-K-S-C, confirmed that the fusion protein product contained Egr sequences.

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In a separate construction, a mouse Egr-l insert, from plasmid OC3.1, was fused, in frame, to a plasmid containing sequences from bovine growth hormone 5 according to the methods described in Slamon, D.J., et al., Science, 233, 347 (1986). The resultant plasmid, designated pV4, comprised a fusion protein containing a 10 fusion gene coding for bovine growth hormone amino acids 1 to 192 and Egr-1 amino acids 2 to 533. This bGH/mouse Egr-1 DNA fusion plasmid, designated pV4, was expressed in E. coli and the resulting fusion protein, designated 15 V4, was identified in Western blots by its reactivity with a bGH monoclonal antibody and its reactivity with VPS10 rabbit anti-Egr-1 peptide antiserum, prepared 20 according to Example 4.

25 EXAMPLE 8

Determination of Egr Levels in Human Tumor and Non-Tumor Tissue

Using the mouse Egr-1 OC68 probe, Northern blot analyses were conducted to determine the levels of transcription of Egr protein encoding DNA in tumor versus surrounding normal tissue from resected human tumor specimens. The tumor samples were from lung (12), colon (7), colon mesastasis (1), bladder (1), rectal (1), giant cell (1), hepatoma (1), breast (1), MFH (malignant fibrous histiocytoma) (1), osteosarcoma (1) and rhabdomyosarcoma (1). In about 50% of these cases, there is markedly decreased (about three to ten-fold) expression of the Egr mRNA in tumor versus normal tissue. One implication of this finding is that Egr proteins of the invention may function as part of a negative regulatory pathway. In any event, it is clear that DNA sequences and antibodies of the invention are susceptible to use in differential diagnoses between tumorous and non-tumorous cell types.

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It will be apparent from consideration of the foregoing illustrative examples that the present invention constitutes a substantial advance in the art and 5 the achievement of a major goal in molecular biology, i.e., the characterization of genes which play a regulatory role in mammalian cell proliferation and differ-10 It will thus be understood that the information provided herein constitutes a basis for straightforward development of useful methods and materials not specifically the subject of the above examples. 15 of illustration, possession of knowledge concerning the base sequence of cDNA and genomic DNA sequences encoding distinct mouse Egr-1 and human EGR2 early growth regu-20 latory proteins comprising histidine-cysteine zinc finger amino acid sequences makes possible the isolation of other such structurally related proteins. 25 stantial homology between the zinc finger regions of Egr-1 and EGR2 coupled with lack of homology in other protein regions, when considered in light of the ability of Egr-1 probes to localize to human chromosome 5 while 30 EGR2 probes localize to human chromosome 10, essentially assures the straightforward isolation of a human gene (provisionally designated "human EGR1") which encodes a 35 protein more closely homologous to Egr-1 and a mouse gene (Egr-2) encoding a protein more closely homologous to EGR2.

While the above examples provide only limited illustration of in vitro and in vivo expression of DNA sequences of the invention, known recombinant techniques are readily applicable to development of a variety of procaryotic and eucaryotic expression systems for the large scale production of Egr proteins and even development of gene therapy regimens.

Knowledge of the specifically illustrated mouse Egr-1 and human EGR2 proteins of the invention has been demonstrated to provide a basis for preparation of

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highly useful antibodies, also provides a wealth of information concerning the nature of protein-nucleic acid interactions which, in turn, constitutes a basis 5 for determination of significant early growth regulatory events. For example, and by analogy to steroid receptor protein structures, analysis of the structure of regions 10 flanking the zinc fingers of Egr-1 and EGR2 and related proteins of the invention is expected to allow for identification of substances which may interact with the proteins to alter their DNA interactive capacities and 15 thus provide the basis for inhibition or augmentation of their regulatory functions. Moreover, information available concerning specific events of DNA interaction 20 of Egr proteins of the invention will permit, e.g., identification and use of potential competitive inhibitors of these proteins. 25

Just as Egr encoding DNA of the invention is conspicuously susceptible to use in differentiation of human tumor and non-tumor cells, antibodies prepared according to the invention are expected to be useful in differential screening of cells based on relative cellular concentrations of mRNA expression products and in the determination of specific genes susceptible to regulation by such products.

Because numerous modifications and variations in the practice of the present invention are expected to occur to those skilled in the art, only such limitations as appear in the appended claims should be placed thereon.

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS

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1. A purified and isolated DNA sequence encoding a mammalian early growth regulatory protein which comprises one or more histidine-cysteine zinc finger amino acid sequences.

- 2. The DNA sequence according to claim 1 encoding human EGR2 protein.
- 3. The DNA sequence according to claim 1 encoding mouse Egr-l protein.
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 5. The DNA sequence according to claim 1 which is a genomic DNA sequence.
- 30 6. The DNA sequence according to claim 1 which is a wholly or partially synthetic DNA sequence.
- 7. The DNA sequence according to claim 1 operatively associated with an homologous or heterologous expression control DNA sequence.
 - 8. The DNA sequence according to claim 1 selected from the group consisting of the DNA sequences set out in Figures 1A, 3, and 4.
 - 9. A procaryotic or eucaryotic host cell transformed or transfected with a DNA sequence comprising a DNA sequence according to claim 1 or 7.
 - 10. A viral or circular DNA plasmid vector comprising a DNA sequence according to claim 1.

- 11. The viral or circular DNA plasmid vector according to claim 10 further comprising an expression control DNA sequence operatively associated with said early growth regulatory protein encoding DNA.
- 12. A method for the production of an early growth regulatory protein comprising:
- growing, in culture, a host cell transformed

 or transfected with a DNA sequence according to claim 1;

 and
- isolating from said host cell or culture the polypeptide product of the expression of said DNA sequence.
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 growth regulatory protein comprising:
 disposing a DNA sequence according to claim 1
 in a cell free transcription and translation system; and
 isolating from said system the polypeptide
 product of the expression of said DNA sequence.
- or <u>in vivo</u> expression of part or all of a protein encoding region of a DNA sequence according to claim 1.
 - 15. The polypeptide product according to claim 14 which is a fusion protein comprising part or all of a mammalian early growth regulatory protein which comprises one or more histidine-cysteine zinc finger amino acid sequences and part or all of a heterologous proteins.
 - 16. The polypeptide product according to claim 15, which comprises a fusion of cro-\beta-galactosidase and Egr-l amino acid sequences or bovine growth hormone and Egr-l amino acid sequences.

- 17. A purified and isolated mammalian early growth regulatory protein comprising one or more histidine-cysteine zinc finger amino acid sequences.
- 18. The protein according to claim 17 and having the amino acid sequence set out in Figure 1A.
- 19. The protein according to claim 17 and having the amino acid sequence set out in Figure 3.
- 20. A synthetic peptide duplicative of a

 20 sequence of amino acids present in a mammalian early
 growth regulatory protein comprising one or more histidine-cysteine zinc finger amino acid sequences and

 25 sharing at least one antigenic epitope of such
- 21. The synthetic peptide of claim 20 and having an amino acid sequence partially duplicative of the amino acid sequence set out in Figure 1A.

protein.

- 35 22. The synthetic peptide of claim 20 and having an amino acid sequence partially duplicative of the amino acid sequence set out in Figure 3.
 - 23. The synthetic peptide of claim 20 and further characterized as duplicative of an amino acid sequence not involved in DNA binding functions.
 - 24. An antibody specifically immunoreactive with at least one epitope of a mammalian early growth regulatory protein comprising one or more histidine-cysteine zinc finger amino acid sequences.

- 25. The antibody according to claim 24 wherein said epitope is other than an epitope within the DNA binding functional region thereof.
- 26. The antibody according to claim 24

 10 selected from the group consisting of monoclonal and polyclonal antibodies.
- 27. The antibody according to claim 24

 capable of specifically binding with a proteinaceous material comprising an amino acid sequence duplicating an antigenic epitope within the following amino acid sequence:

H-L-R-Q-K-D-K-K-A-D-K-S-C.

28. The antibody according to claim 24 capable of specifically binding with a proteinaceous material comprising an amino acid sequence duplicating an antigenic epitope within the following amino acid sequence:

C-G-R-K-F-A-R-S-D-E-R-K-R-H-T-K-I.

- 29. A method for quantitative detection of a mammalian early growth regulatory protein comprising one or more histidine-cysteine zinc finger amino acid sequences based on the immunological reaction of the same with an antibody according to claim 24.
 - 30. A method for quantitative detection within a sample of messenger RNA transcripts for mammalian early growth regulatory proteins comprising one or more histidine-cysteine zinc finger amino acid sequences comprising the step of hybridizing RNA within said sample with a DNA sequence partially or wholly duplicating a DNA sequence according to claim 1.

- 31. A method for quantitative detection within a sample of DNA encoding for mammalian early growth regulatory proteins comprising one or more histidine-cysteine zinc finger amino acid sequences comprising the step of hybridizing DNA within said sample with a DNA sequence partially or wholly duplicating a DNA sequence according to claim 1.
- 32. A method for detecting a disease

 genetically linked to a mammalian Egr gene comprising the step of quantitating mammalian early growth regulatory DNA sequences according to claim 1.

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3 9 9	CCT	ACC	AGT	ccg Pro	CCC	42 CCGGAAC laGlyTh	
\TC(:AG	CCA	ATC	[CT]	ľac. ľyr]	SCC(Ala(FIG	
50 AAG2	110 CCGC(170 CCGG(230 CAAC2	290 GATG: uMet:	350 CAAC! pAsn!	410 TGCTC YAla1	
, 2052	11 PACC	17 \CC(22 2002	25 LTG7	35 3AC2 ASpA	41 3GTC	
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40 TCC	100 GCC	160 ?CGC	220 3GCC	280 AGA:	340 CCA	400 ?AGT	
ည်	9921	2221) TGC	ccc 1a	CAC	ccc	
CCA	どころい	GCP	ენე	AGG ys?	ACT	CTC	
20 TTCGCCGCCGCCAGCTTCCGCCGCCGCAAGATCGGCCCC	70 80 90 100 110 120 TGCCCCAGCCTCCGGGCCTGCGTCCACCACGGGCCGGCTACCGCCAGCCTGGG	130 140 150 160 170 180 GGCCCACCTACACTCCCCGGCCAGCCCCCCCCGCCATGTAACCCGGCCAACCCCC	190 200 210 220 230 240 GGCGAGTGTGCCCTCAGTAGCTTCGGCCCCGGGCTGCGCCCACCCA	860 270 280 290 300 ATGGCAGCGCCAAGGCCGAGATGCAATTGATGTCTCCGCTG MetAlaAlaAlaLysAlaGluMetGlnLeuMetSerProLeu	310 320 330 340 350 360 CAGATCTCTGACCCGTTCGGCTCCTTTTCCTCACTCACCATGGACAACTACCCCAAA GlnIleSerAspProPheGlySerPheProHisSerProThrMetAspAsnTyrProLys	370 380 420 400 410 420 CTGGAGGAGATGATGCTGAGCAACGGGGCTCCCCAGTTCCTCGGTGCTGCCGGAACC LeuGluGluMetMetLeuLeuSerAsnGlyAlaProGlnPheLeuGlyAlaAlaGlyThr	
၁၁၁	CGI	1 1900	2 GCC	2 CGG	3 TTC heF	3 ACG snG	
၁၁၁	CTG	TGI		CAG	ccī	GCA	
20 TTCG	80 AGCC	0 CAG	00 AGCI	60 ATGG Meta	20 GGCT G1yS	80 CTGA LeuS	
2 GAT	8 GCA	140 CCGC	20 GTA	26 GGA M	32 TCG	38 TGC euL	
CGC	විටව	J)	TCA	၅ ၁၁၁	CGT	TGC	
၁၅၁	TCC	CAC	ည	GGT	ACC	TGA etM	
10 GGGGAGCCGCCGCGGA	70 GCC	130 CTA	190 GTG	250 CCAGCTCGCTGGTCCGGG	310 CAGATCTCTGACCCGTTC GlnIleSerAspProPhe	370 CTGGAGGAGATGATGCTG LeuGluGluMetMetLeu	
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AlaAlaSerSerSerSerAlaSerGlnSerProProLeuSerCysAlaValProSer

FIGURE 1.2

GGCAGCAACAGCGCCAGCAGCGCCTTCAATCCTCAAGGGGAGCCGAGCGAACAACCTAT 099 GluThrSerTyrProSerGlnThrThrArgLeuProProIleThrTyrThrGlyArgPhe ProGluGlySerGlyGlyAsnSerSerSerSerThrSerSerGlyGlyGlyGlyGlyGly GAGACGAGTTATCCCAGCCAAACGACTCGGTTGCCTCCCATCACCTATACTGGCCGCTTC ${\tt SerLeuGluProAlaProAsnSerGlyAsnThrLeuTrpProGluProLeuPheSerLeu}$ ValSerGlyLeuValSerMetThrAsnProProThrSerSerSerAlaProSerPro GCTGCTTCATCGTCTTCCTCTGCCTCCCAGAGCCCGCCCTGAGCTGTGCCGTGCCGTCC ${\tt GlySerAsnSerGlySerSerAlaPheAsnProGlnGlyGluProSerGluGlnProTyr}$ GAGCACCTGACCACAGAGTCCTTTTTTGACATCGCTCTGAATAATGAGAAGGCGATGGTG TCCCTGGAGCCCGCACCCAACAGTGGCAACACTTTGTGGCCTGAACCCCCTTTTCAGCCTA GTCAGTGGCCTCGTGAGCATGACCAATCCTCCGACCTCTTCATCCTCGGCGCCCTTCTCCA ${ t GluHisLeuThrGluSerPheSerAspIleAlaLeuAsnAsnGluLysAlaMetVal}$ 530 590 830 580 700 760 820 520 069 450 630 810 570 750 680 560 740 800 430 550 0/9 790

TCATTCCCATCCCTGTGCCCACTTCCTACTCCTCTCTGGCTCCTCCACCTACCCATCT

 ${\tt SerPheProSerProValProThrSerTyrSerSerProGlySerSerThrTyrProSer}$

FIGURE 1.4

CGCCATATCCGCATCCACACAGGCCAGAAGCCCTTCCAGTGTCGAATCTGCATGCGTAAC ArgHisIleArgIleHisThrGlyGlnLysProPheGlnCysArgIleCysMetArgAsn TTCAGTCGTAGTGACCACCTTACCACCCACATCCGCACCCACACAGGCGAGAAGCCTTTT PheSerArgSerAspHisLeuThrThrHisIleArgThrHisThrGlyGluLysProPhe GCCTGTGACATTTGTGGGAGGAAGTTTGCCAGGAGTGATGAACGCAAGAGGCCATACCAAA AlaCysAspIleCysGlyArgLysPheAlaArgSerAspGluArgLysArgHisThrLys ATCCATTTAAGACAGACAAGAAAGCAGACAAAAAGTGTGGTGGCCTCCCCGGCTGCC ProTyrAlaCysProValGluSerCysAspArgArgPheSerArgSerAspGluLeuThr IleHisLeuArgGlnLysAspLysLysAlaAspLysSerValValAlaSerProAlaAla TCTTCACTCTCTTCTTACCCATCCCCAGTGGCTACCTCCTACCCATCCCTGCCACCACC ${ t SerSerLeuSerSerTyrProSerProValAla { t ThrSerTyrProSerProAla { t Thr}}$

1740 FTCCACCT	1800 CAGCACC DeSerThr	1860 TTGCTAA eCys	1920 GGAAGAG	1980 TCCTTCT	2040
1730 FTGCCTCCG1 1eAlaSerVa	1790 SCAGCTCCTT erSerSerP	1850 AATTGAAAT rilegluil	1910 GCACAGGAG	1970 AGAGCCAAG	2030
1720 CCACCACCTI laThrThrPh	1780 CGGGCGTCAG laGlyValSe	1840 CTCCCAGGAC erProArgTh	1900 AGACATAAAA	1960 GGAAGATCTC	2020
1700 1710 1720 1730 1740 CCCGTCGCCGTCACCACCTTTGCCTCCGTTCCACCT eProSerProSerValAlaThrThrPheAlaSerValProPro	760 1770 1780 1790 1800 CAGCAGCTTCCCGTCTGCGGGCGTCAGCAGCTCCTTCAGCACC 1SerSerPheProSerAlaGlyValSerSerSerPheSerThr	1830 SCGACCTTTT	1890 BAGGCAGGAA	1950 FAGGTCAGAT	2010
1700 TTCCCGTCG	1760 GTCAGCAGC	1820 GACATGACAC ASPMetThr	1880 GCAAAGGGAC	1940 GCCACCTCTT	2000
1690 1700 1710 1720 1730 1740 CCTGCGCACAGTGGCTTCCCGTCGCCGTCAGTGGCCACCTTTTGCCTCCGTTCCACCT ProAlaHisSerGlyPheProSerProSerValAlaThrThrPheAlaSerValProPro	1750 GCTTTCCCCACCCAGGT AlaPheProThrGlnVa	1810 1820 1830 1840 1850 1860 TCAACTGGTCTTTCAGACATGACAGCGACCTTTTCTCCCAGGACAATTTGAAATTTGCTAA SerThrGlyLeuSerAspMetThrAlaThrPheSerProArgThrIleGluIleCys	1870 1880 1890 1900 1910 1920 AGGGAATAAAAGAAAGAGGGAGGGAAAGACATAAAAGCACAGGAGGGAAGAG	1930 1940 1950 1960 1970 1980 ATGGCCGCAAGAGCCCACCTCTTAGGTCAGATGGAAGATCTCAGAGCCAAGTCCTTCT	1990
CC	GC A1		Š TITUTE	·	1

FIGURE 1.5

GTCCTGTTCCCTTTGACTTCAGCTGCCTGAAACAGCCATGTCCAAGTTCTTCACCTCTAT

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ACTCACGAGTAGAAGGACCGTTGGCCAACAGCCCTTTCACTTACCATCCCTGCCTCCCCC

AGGTATTAACTGGAGCATGTCAGAGTGTTGTTCCGTTAATTTTTGTAATACTGGCTCG

2480

2160 TCACATG	. 2220 AAATGGG	2280 TTTTGTT 2340 TGGAGTT	2400 CTCTATT	2460 CAGTCCT
2150 ATCCTCTCCA	2210 VAAGAAAAA	2270 STGCCATGGA 2330 TGTATTATT	2390 ATGATGATC	2450 TTCAAGCAG
2140 CATTTCAGT?	2200 AGTTGGCATA	2260 ACAGCATCTG 2320 CATACTCTAT	2380 AAGCAAACCA	2440 CATTTTTT
2120 2130 2140 2150 2160 GCATGGTATTGGATAAATCATTTCAGTATCCTCTCCATCACATG	2180 2190 2200 2210 2220 TTCAGCGCTAGACCATCAAGTTGGCATAAAGAAAAAAAATGGG	2250 GCATCTTTGT 2310 AGATAATTTG	2360 2370 2380 2390 2400 GGAGGGGGAGCAAAGCAAACCAATGATGATCCTCTATT	2420 2430 2440 2450 2460 GTGACATTAGGTTTTTTTTTTTTTCAAGCAGCAGTCCT
2120 TTGCATGGTA	2180 CCTTCAGCGC	2240 ACCCTGCCCT 2300 CTTGATGTGA	2360 GGGGAGGGGG	2420 CTGTGACATT
2110 CCAAAGGACTTGATTT	2170 CCTGGCCCTTGCTCCC	Z230 2240 2250 2260 2270 2280 TTTGGGCCCTCAGAACCCTGCCTCTTTTTTTTTTTTTTT	2350 AAATCCTCACTTTGGG	2410 TTGTGATGACTCTGCT
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TAGGAGTGATGTGTTGGGGGAGGCTTGAGAGCAAAAACGAGGAAGAGGGGCTGAGCTGAGC

FIGURE 1.7

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TGGA	TCAT	TTGG	CAGA
GAGT	AAGT	CTGT	CCTT
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28	29	29	30
:CTAT	TGAA	AAAG	GTGT
))	PAAAC)
PACAT	IGTTA		\TGTG
2850	2910	2970	3030
PTTAT	FGTAT	FGCTT	3GATA
TAAA	TTLL	TGTT	CATG
2840	2900	2960	3020
Aaatg	TGCAG	ACTTG	TTGCC
2	2	2	3
TGAA	.GGCT	TGTA	CTAT
0	0	o	OCCT
AAAC	AGTA	ACTT	
2830	2890	2950	3010
TTCTA	ACTGA	TTTTA	AATGC
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TATTTTTTTAAAATGTAAATTTATACATCTATTCAGGAGTTGGAGTGTTGTGGT	TACCTACTGAGTAGCTGTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTTT	TTTTATTTTACTTTGTGTTTGCTTTAACAAGTAACCTGTTTGGCTTATAAACA	CATTGAATGCGCTCTATTGCCCATGGGATATGTGGTGTGTGT

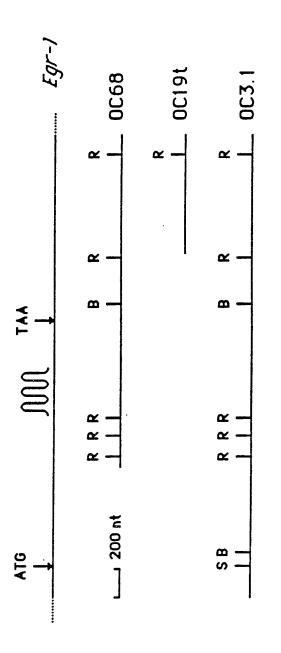


FIGURE 1B

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"Zinc finger" consensus sequence	Murine Egr-1	Drosophila Kruppel	Xenopus TFIIIA (finger 2)
	208	SHIUIL OHLL	

FIGURE 3.1

AspLeuAlaAlaThrSerValThrIlePheProAsnAlaGluLeuGlyGlyProPheAsp

 ${\tt GlnMetAsnGlyValAlaGlyAspGlyMetIleAsnIleAspMetThrGlyGluLysArg}$

TCGTTGGATCTCCCATATCCCAGCAGCTTTGCTCCCGTCTCTGCACCTAGAAACCAGACC ${\tt SerLeuAspLeuProTyrProSerSerPheAlaProValSerAlaProArgAsnGlnThr}$ ${\tt PheThrTyrMetGlyLysPheSerIleAspProGlnTyrProGlyAlaSerCysTyrPro}$ TTCACTTACATGGGCAAGTTCTCCATTGACCCACAGTACCCTGGTGCCAGCTGCTACCCA GAAGGCATAATCAATATTGTGAGTGCAGGCATCTTGCAAGGGGTCACTTCCCCAGCTTCA ${ t GluGlyIleIleAsnIleValSerAlaGlyIleLeuGlnGlyValThrSerProAlaSer}$ ACCACAGCCTCATCCAGCGTCACCTCTGCCTCCCCCAACCCCACTGGCCACAGGACCCCTG ${ t Thr Thr Ala Ser Ser Val Thr Ser Ala Ser Pro Asn Pro Leu Ala Thr Gly Pro Leu$ 590 530 520 400 460 580 390 450 510 570 380 500 560 490

CCTCCTCCTCTTATTCTGGCTGTGCAGGAGACCTCTACCAGGACCTTCTGCGTTCCTG ProProProProTyrSerGlyCysAlaGlyAspLeuTyrGlnAspProSerAlaPheLeu

700

069

680

GGTGTGTGCACCATGTCCCAGACCCAGCCTGACCTGGACCACCTGTACTCTCCGCCACCG

630

620

610

650

640

 ${\tt GlyValCysThrMetSerGlnThrGlnProAspLeuAspHisLeuTyrSerProProPro}$

GAGGGACCCCGGCTGCTGGTAGCAGCTCAGCAGCAGCAGCAGCCGCCGCCGCCGCCGCCGCC

1070

1060

1050

1040

1030

GluGlyProArgLeuProGlySerSerSerAlaAlaAlaAlaAlaAlaAlaAlaAlaAla

AsnPheThrLeuGlyGlyProSerAlaGlyMetThrGlyProGlyAlaSerGlyGlySer

780	ZA.	9	840	ာ့ ၁	006	ľľ	Je	096	T.	نَّط	0.3	ပ္ပ
78	TATC	:TyrP)	78	GGAT	9	CCCL	sProPl	96	ATCC	IleAı	1020	GGCAC
770	ACCTCCTTCC	oProProSer	830	AGACTATCC'I OASPTYrPrc	890	AGACCGTAAG	coAspArgLys	950	ACTCTCTACA	oLeuSerThr	1010	GGCCAGTGGA
160	CCTACCCACC	MaTyrProPr	820		880	ACAGCTGGCCC	rhrAlaGlyP r	940	CACTCACTCC	roLeuThrPr	1000	ACCGGACCAGG
750	PTCCTCTGG	rSerSerLeu <i>P</i>	810	AGGTCTCTTCO oGlyLeuPheI	870	CCTACATGGT	${ t pLeuHisGly}^{ t 1}$	930	CTGCGGGTGCCCCCTCCACTCCACTCTCTACAATCCGT	gValProPro⊡	066	IGCTGGGATG?
740	CCTCCACCTC	hrserThrse	800	CCACGGACCC	860	GCCAGAGAGA	ysGlnArgAs	920	ACACCCTGCG	spThrLeuAr	980	GGGCCCCAG
730	TCAGCAGCCACCTCCACCTCTTCCTCTGGCCTACCCACCACCTCCTTCCT	SerAlaAlaThrThrSerThrSerSerLeuAlaTyrProProProSerTyrPro	790	TCCCCCAGGCCAGGACCCAGGTCTTCCATTGATCCCAGACTATCCTGGATTCCTGGATTTC SerProLysProAlaThrAspProGlyLeuPheProMetIleProAspTyrProGlyPhe	850	TTTCCATCTCAGTGCCAGAGAGCCTACATGGTACAGCTGGCCCAGACCGTAAGCCCTTT	PheProSerGlnCysGlnArgAspLeuHisGlyThrAlaGlyProAspArgLysProPhe	910	CCCTGCCCACTGGACACC	ProCysProLeuAspThrLeuArgValProProProLeuThrProLeuSerThrIleArg	970	AACTTTACCCTGGGGGCCCCCAGTGCTGGGATGACCGGACCAGGGGCCAGTGGAGGCAGC
				´S	UBS	3T1	TU	ITE	: S	HE	ΞT	

CGCACCCACACCGGTGAGAAGCCCTTTCGCCTGTGACTACTGTGGCCGAAAGTTTGCCCGG ${\tt ArgThrHisThrGlyGluLysProPheAlaCysAspTyrCysGlyArgLysPheAlaArg}$

AGTGATGAGAAGCGCCACACCAAGATCCACCTGAGACAGAAAAGCGGAAAAGCAGT ${f SerAspGluArgLysArgHisThrLysIleHisLeuArgGlnLysGluArgLysSerSer}$

FIGURE 3.5

AAGCAGGTTCTTCCTAAAACTTAGCCCATTCTAGTCTCTCTTAGGTGAGTTGACTATCAA

1860	1920	1980	2040
GAGGGCT	CCCCTTA	TTTCTAC	
1850	1910	1970	2030
CCTGGCCAA	PACCCCACTT	PCTAAGACGI	
1840	1900	1960	2020
GTGGGGATC	AGGTTTTGC1	CAGAGTTGA	
1830	1890	1950	2010
AGGAGGTGGT	TTGTTTGACT	CCCTGGATG1	
1820	1880	1940	2000
GAGGCTCAGA	CTTTAAAGGG	AGGTTTTTGA	
1810 1820 1830 1840 1850 1860	1870 1880 1890 1900 1910 1920	1930 1940 1950 1960 1970 1980	1990
CCCAAGGCAAAGGAAGGAGGTGGTGGGGGATCCCCTGGCCAAGAGGGCT	GAGGTCTGACCTTGTTTGTTTTGGTTTTTGCTACCCCACTTCCCCTTA	TTTTGACCCATCAGGGTTTTTTGACCCTGGATGTCAGAGTTGTTTTTTTT	

0 H	0 H 0 D	00 A:	0 E
2220 AACGT	2280 TATAT 2340 CTTTG	2400 ACATA	2460 TAST
3AGG,	agtgʻ	ATGT	ՄՄ Մ
2210 GATGG(2270 TTTTC 2330 ATTCT	2390	2450 Trace
2. rgtg	2: ATTTT 2: PAAA	2. IAAG	2410 2420 2430 2440 2450 2460 2450 mmcmcm.
CAAT	GCTZ) FATT	ىلىن (
2200 AGTG	2260 CTAG 2320 CTGTT	2380 \ACTT	2440
CAGA	aaat:	GTT2	ר איני מיני
2170 2180 2120 2200 2210 2220 CTTGAAGCAATATGTATATACTCAGAGAACAGAAGTGCAATGTGATGGGAGGAACGT	2230 2240 2250 2260 2270 2280 AGCAATATCTGCTCCTTTTCGAGTTTGTTTTGAGAAATGTAGGCTATTTTTTCAGTGTATAT 2290 2310 2310 2320 2330 2340 CCACTCAGATTTTGTGTATTTTTGATGTACCCACACTGTTCTTTAAATTCTGAATCTTTG	2350 2360 2370 2380 2390 2400 GGAAAAAATGTAATGATCTCAGAGGTTAACTTATTTAAGGGGGATGTACATA	2430 Tenera
21 TCAG	22 PTGTI 23 SATG	2: ATCT(2, 2,
ATAC	CGAG1) !ATG2	
2180 TTAT	2240 TTTC 2300 TATT	2360 ATTT	2420
TGTA	TCCI	AAGO	ר של של היים ליים ליים ליים ליים ליים ליים ליי
70 AATA	2230 ATCTGC 2290 AGATT	2350 AATGTA	2410 2410
2170 AAGCAA	22 ATAT 22 TCAG	23 Aaaa	24 42
CTTG.	AGCA	GGAA	

FIGURE 3.7

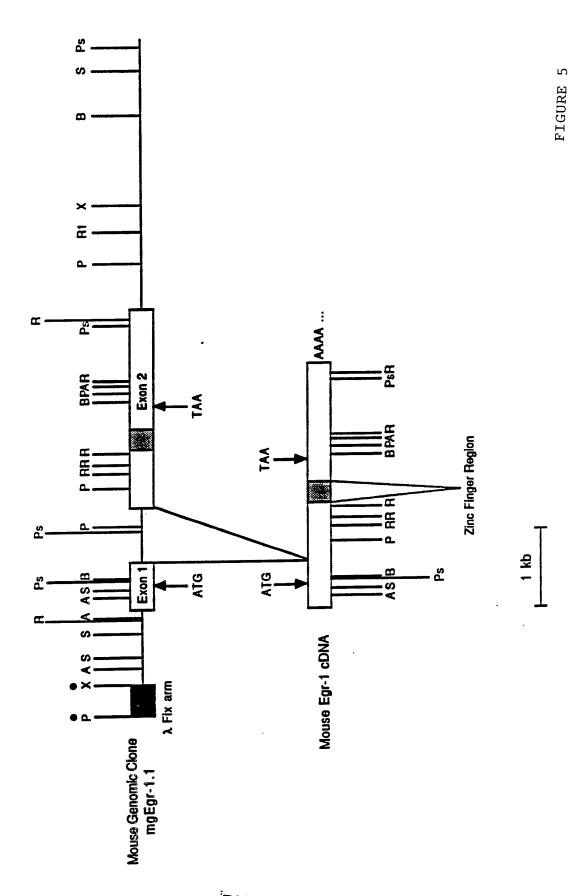
GTAGACAAATGTTACAAGGCTGCATGTAAATGGGTTGCCTTATTATGGAGAA

2490

2480

-876 TCTANNACCC	-816 TGTCCCAAGA	-756 TGACCCTGCC	CTABCCCGCC	-636 00000000000000000000000000000000000	-576 GGCCTGGGCT	-516 CTCTACGCBC	-456 CABTTSBBAA	-396 CGBAAACGCC ATATAAGGAG	-336 66AGT660 <u>50</u>
Авссссяввс	AGCTAGGCAG	АССТББАААБ	GGCCTCTGCC	-636 CCACBGTCCC CGABGT <u>GGGC BG</u> GTGABCCC	ຍວວຍວຍວວວວ	всвсесссяв	CTCABBCTCC		CBCCTTATAT
BTGCATTBGA ABCCCCAGGC	CCCGACTGCT	TCCCGBTBAC ACCTGGAAAG	тстсствеес	CCACGGTCCC	CCGGCCTGAC TCGCCCTCGC	Свамассасс	وحودودودوه	TGCGCCGACC	CCCCGCCGG AACABACCTT ATTTBGGCAB CGCCTTATAT GGAGTGGCCC
	CGAGTATGCA	GCCTCAGTTT	2282222888	ABBCTCBCTC	ссвасствас	CBBGGBCCBT	BTCCCCBACT	GGGGGGGTG	AACABACCTT
-935 Acegaeseaa taecettice atteteebte	-875 CCAACCTACT GACTEGTEGC	-815 ACCAGTAGCC AAATGTCTTG	GCTCABBICA BBGCCCCBCC TCTCCT <u>BGGC GG</u> CCTCTGCC CTABC <u>CCGCC</u>	TCCTCTCCGC	-635 AGBATGACGB CTGTABAACC	-575 TCCCTAGCCC ABCTCGCACC	CCACGCGGGC	GGAGGATGGG	
-935 ACGGAGGGAA	-875 CCAACCTACT	-815 ACCAGTAGCC	-755 ATTAGTAGAG	-695 CTGCCGCTCC	-635 AGGATGACGG	-575 TCCCTABCCC	-515 CTGGCCCTCC	-455 CCAAGGAGGG	-395 CAGGAAGGAT

278- 000000000000000000000000000000000000	ATACTAGGC	-156 TGCCCACCAC	-96 CCATATTAGG	-36 GTGCTGTTCC	+25 GCAGAACTTG	+85 ATCGGCCCCT	+145 CAGCCTGGGG	+205 CCAACCCCCG	+265 ATCAGTTCTC
	-275 AAGCTGGGAA CTCCAGGCGC CTGGCCCGGG AGGCCACTGC TGCTGTTCCA ATACTAGGCT	-115 TTCCAGGAGC CTGAGCGCTC GCGATGCCGG AGCGGGTCGC AGGGTGGAGG TGCCCACCAC	-155 TCTTGGATGG GAGGGCTICA CGTCACTCCG GGTCCTCCCG GCCGGTCCTT CCATATTAGG	Аввсевисс	ATCCCAGCGC	ССВССВСААВ	CGGCTACCGC	BCACCCCGCA TGTAACCCGG	+265 TTCGGCCCCG GGCTGCGCCC ACCACCAAC ATCAGTTCTC
-335 <u>ЛАТ</u> АТВОССС ТБССБСТТСС ВВСТСТВВВА ВВАВВВВСВА ВСВВВВТТВ	ABBCCACTBC	AGCGGGTCGC	ввтсстсссв	-95 GCTTCCTBCT TCCCATATAT BBCCATBTAC BTCACGGCBB	+1 GTCGCGAGAG	68BABCCGC BCCGCBATTC GCCGCGCG CCAGCTTCCG	CCGCGGCAGC CCTGCGTCCA CCACGGGCCB	всясссвся	GGCTGCGCCC al
вестстввва	CTGGCCCGGG Small	GCGATGCCGG	CBTCACTCCB	GGCCATGTAC	GATTCGGGGA	C GCCGCGCG	CCTGCGTCCA	втвтвсссст	
TECCECTTCC	CTCCABBCBC	CTGABCGCTC	GAGGGCTTCA	TCCCATATAT	-35 AGACCCTTG <u>A AATA</u> 3AGGCC GATT.CGGGGA	BCCBCBATTC 29	ссесевсяес	+146 GCCCACCTAC ACTCCCGGCA GTGTGCCCCT	CCTCABTAGC
-335 <u>041</u> ATBBCCC	-275 AAGCTGGGAA	-215 TTCCAGGAGC	-155 TCTTGGATGG	-95 6CTTCCTBCT	-35 AGACCCTTGA	+26 GBBABCCGCC	+86 GCCCCAGCCT	+146 GCCCACCTAC	+206 GCGAGTGTGC



SUBSTITUTE SHEET

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No. PCT/US89/01473

				/US89/01473		
I. CLASSI	FICATIO	N OF SUBJECT MATTER (if several classific	ation symbols apply, indicate all) 6			
CO7H 1	5/12,	onal Patent Classification (IPC) or to both Nation C12P 21/00, 19/34; C1	al Classification and IPC $2N \ 15/00, \ 7/00, \ 1/$	20;		
C12Q 1	/68;	CO7K 13/00				
II. FIELDS	SEARCH	The state of the s				
		Minimum Documenta				
Classification	n System	Cl	assification Symbols			
US		536/27; 435/68, 91, 252.3, 6;530/350, 387	172.1, 172.3,	320,		
		Documentation Searched other the to the Extent that such Documents a	an Minimum Documentation re Included in the Fields Searched ⁸			
CAS d	ataba grow	se (1967-1989) keyword th regulatory/gene/exp	s: finger/protein ression/sequence	/motif		
UL DOCU	MENTS C	ONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT 9				
Category *	Citat	ion of Document, 11 with indication, where appro	priate, of the relevant passages 12	Relevant to Claim No. 13		
Jacquit	5					
Ÿ	Journ a pro durin	ier, P. et al (January al, Volume 7: 29-35;" tein with zinc fingers g Go/Gl, transition in entire document.	is activated	1-5,8-10 6,7,11,12 14-16		
Ÿ	Volum encod prese mamma	Thury, K. et al (March ne 48: 771-778; "A Mult ling several finger str ent and differentially lian genomes". See en	ructures is active in atire document.	1-5,8-10 6,7,11, 12,14-16		
37	Lau, L. et al (March 1987) PNAS, Volume 84: 1182-1186; "Expression of a set of growth-related immediate early genes in BALB/c 3T3 cells: coordinate regulation with c-fos or c-myc. See entire document 1-5,7-11 6,12, 14-16					
* Special categories of cited documents: 10 *A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "O" document referring to an oral-disclosure, use, exhibition or other means "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "Y" later document published after the international filing or priority date and not in conflict with the application cited to understand the principle or theory underlying invention "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed inventional formation or particular relevance; the claimed inventionation or particular relevance; the claimed inventional formation or particular relevance; the claimed inventionation or particular relevance; the claimed inventionation or particular relevance; the claimed inventionation or particular relevance; the claimed inventional formation or particular relevance; the claimed inventionation						
		ompletion of the International Search	Date of Mailing of this International S	earch Report		
ł	ne 19		24 AUG 1989			
Internation	nal Search	ing Authority	Signature of Authorized Officer			
ISA U			Anne Brown			
		(Pay 11 97)				

International Application No. PCT/US89/01473

FURTHE	R INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM THE SECOND SHEET	
. P,Y	Pannuti, A. et al (May 1988) Nucleic Acids Res., Volume 16: 4227-4237 "Isolation of CDNAs encoding finger proteins and measurment of the corresponding mRNA levels during myeloid terminal differentiation" See entire document.	1-12, 14-16
P,Y	Almendrol et al (May 1988) Mol Cell Biol, Vol. 8:2140-2148 "Complexity of the Early Genetic Response to Growth Factors in Mouse Fibroblasts". See entire document.	1-12, 14-16
V. □ O B	SERVATIONS WHERE CERTAIN CLAIMS WERE FOUND UNSEARCHABLE 1	
I —	national search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2) (a) for m numbers . because they relate to subject matter ' not required to be searched by this Auti	
		-
	im numbers \dots , because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out 13 , specifically:	ith the prescribed require-
. —	im numbers, because they are dependent claims not drafted in accordance with the second ar T Rule 6.4(a).	nd third sentences of
VIX O	BSERVATIONS WHERE UNITY OF INVENTION IS LACKING 2	
This Inte	rnational Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application as follows:	
	See attached sheet	
	all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report co he international application.	overs all searchable claims
	only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international se claims of the international application for which fees were paid, specifically claims:	search report covers only
	required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international seinvention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claim numbers: $1-12$, $14-16$	arch report is restricted to
inv	all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the International Site payment of any additional fee.	Searching Authority did not
1 _	on Protest e additional search fees were accompanied by applicant's protest.	
=	protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.	

ATTACHMENT TO PCT/ISA/210 VI. OBSERVATION WHERE UNITY OF INVENTION IS LACKING

- I. Claims 1-12, and 14-16 are drawn to EGR DNA sequence, vector or cell containing it, transformed host, method of using vector or cell and a polypeptide.
- II. Claim 13 is drawn to cell-tree method of preparing an early growth regulatory protein.
 - III. Claims 17-19 are drawn to native EGR protein.
- IV. Claims 20-23 are drawn to synthetic peptide tragment antigenically related to and containing homology to native EGR protein.
- V. Claims 24-29 are drawn to antibodies to EGR, anti-bodies to region EGR, method of using antibody.
 - VI. Claim 30 is drawn to method of detecting mRNA.
 - VII. Claim 31 is drawn to method of detecting DNA.
 - VIII. Claim 32 is drawn to method of diagnosis.

The claims do not embrace one single general inventive concept as defined in Rule 13.

Groups I, III, IV and V contain claims directed to distinct chemical entities. These are a gene and a protein coded for by that gene, a native EGR protein, a synthetic peptide fragment, antibodies which bind to EGR proteins. Groups II, VI, VII and VIII are directed to alternative uses for the nucleotide defined in Group I.